

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A nip pressure at an inlet site of a nip portion 69 is higher than a nip pressure at an exit site of the nip portion 69. Thus, the relatively higher nip pressure is applied to a recording medium 4 at the inlet site of the nip portion 69 thereby squeezing out a carrier liquid L from space between toner particles T and between the recording medium 4 and the toner T. Hence, the amount of carrier liquid L remaining in the spaces is notably decreased. The recording medium 4 with a decreased amount of carrier liquid L carried thereon is moved to the exit site of the nip portion 69, where the toner T is brought into pressure contact with one side S1 of the recording medium 4 thereby to be fixed to the recording medium 4.

(Fig.3)